NTSB ID: DEN02FA106 Aircraft Registration Number: N5119R

Occurrence Date: 09/14/2002 Most Critical Injury: Fatal

Occurrence Type: Accident Investigated By: NTSB

Location/Time

Nearest City/Place	State	Zip Code	Local Time	Time Zone	
Delta	СО	81416	0955	MDT	
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip	Distance Fror	n Landing Facility:	1	Direction Fro	m Airport: 30

Aircraft Information Summary

7 in ordinarion Carrinary		
Aircraft Manufacturer	Model/Series	Type of Aircraft
Beech	B19	Airplane

Sightseeing Flight: No Air Medical Transport Flight: No

### Narrative

 $\label{lem:conditions} \textbf{Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:}$ 

HISTORY OF FLIGHT

On September 14, 2002, at 0955 mountain daylight time, a Beech B19, N5119R, owned and operated by Sid Hall Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Southern Aircraft Sales of Albany, Georgia, was destroyed when it impacted terrain and burned 2 miles north of Delta, Colorado. The private pilot, the sole occupant aboard, was fatally injured. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed for the ferry flight being operated under Title 14 CFR Part 91. The flight originated at Delta at 0953, and was en route to Albany with unknown intermediate stops.

The airplane had recently undergone a pre-purchase annual inspection and, according to Sid Hall Enterprises, they had purchased the airplane from a private individual in Delta. The pilot, whom they had used on previous occasions, intended to ferry it to Albany to accumulate flight time. According to the airport manager, the previous owner flew the airplane the day before the accident. After the uneventful flight, the airplane was serviced with 31.1 gallons of 100-octane low lead aviation grade gasoline. This filled it to its 60-gallon capacity. The next morning, the pilot --carrying a flight bag and an overnight kit --- arrived at the airport and boarded the airplane. There is no record of the pilot obtaining a weather briefing or filing a flight plan. Witnesses said the pilot "seemed to be in a hurry" and made a "quick" preflight inspection. After starting the engine, the pilot taxied to the end of runway 03 and performed the pretakeoff checks. The airport manager said the magneto checks sounded normal, but the checks were brief --- "He didn't even have adequate oil temps yet." As soon as the pilot added takeoff power, the airport manager "knew something was wrong." The engine "began to pop," "stutter," and "sputter," and "continued to 0 so the entire length of the runway. The engine was "producing less than full power, about 1,700 to 1,800 rpm, like he had a fuel problem, water in the fuel, or a leaning problem," and the airplane was "not accelerating." The airport manager kept thinking to himself, "Abort, abort!" The airplane lifted off near the end of the 5,600-foot runway (1.5 percent uphill grade), flew in ground effect and barely cleared sagebrush and a barbed wire perimeter fence. The left wing dipped and the airplane disappeared below the mesa and into a valley. Shortly thereafter, a plume of smoke was observed.

A flight student said he overheard the pilot tell the airport manager that "he had never flown in the mountains before." He watched the pilot start the engine, taxi to the end of runway 03, and perform "a short run up, only checking the magnetos." When the pilot applied full power, "I knew that the engine was not running right because of the roughness we heard. We were thinking that he would abort but he kept rolling down the runway.

Another witness at the airport, an accident reconstructionist with the Colorado State Patrol, recalled the airport manager telling the pilot that "at this altitude, the 180 horsepower engine does not have as much power." The airport manager's wife "was concerned about how much rest [the pilot] had received, because he told her that he had "flown into Grand Junction approximately 11

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Narrative (Continued)

p.m. on Friday," and that "he was planning to fly all the way to Georgia, and arrive there about 2 a.m. Sunday morning" (it was estimated the pilot got no more than 6 hours of sleep.) She said that during the takeoff roll, the airplane "was not accelerating as it should."

Tournament attendees at Delta Golf Course, adjacent to the accident site, said the engine was "sputtering" when the airplane struck the ground near the 4th hole, and it immediately exploded and erupted into flames.

### PERSONNEL INFORMATION

The 46-year old pilot held a private pilot certificate with airplane single-engine land and instrument ratings, dated March 7, 2000. His third class airman medical certificate, dated May 16, 2002, contained the restriction, "Must wear corrective lenses while operating an aircraft." When the pilot applied for medical certification, he estimated his flight time to be 427 hours, of which 9 hours were accumulated during the previous 6 months. His most recent flight review was dated March 26, 2002. A family relative said he had spoken with the pilot on the evening before the accident. He said the pilot had never flown into or out of high elevation airports, and was unsure of what to expect.

According to the FAA and a Scottsdale, Arizona, aviation insurance company, the pilot had been involved is a landing incident in Boise, Idaho, on May 23, 2002. He was ferrying a Beech B24R, N6604R. During the landing roll on runway 28L, the nose landing gear collapsed, damaging the propeller, lower nacelle, exhaust stack, and nose wheel fork. The investigation was still open at the time of this writing. The insurance company conducted its own investigation and provided a copy of excerpts from the pilot's logbook. Dated from March 7, 2000, to August 6, 2002, the logbook reflected the following flight hours:

Total time: 564.8

Pilot-in-command: 443.7

Solo: 445.3

Airplane, single-engine: 544.0 Airplane, multiengine: 15.9 Actual instruments: 9.5 Simulated instruments: 37.3 Instruction received: 117.2 Cross-country: 390.7

Night: 56.2

### AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

N5119R (s/n MB-654), a model B19, was manufactured by the Beech (now Raytheon) Aircraft Corporation and given FAA certification on July 26, 1974. It was equipped with a Textron-Lycoming O-360-A4J engine (s/n L-19136-36A), rated at 180 horsepower, and a Sensenich 78EM85-0-60, 2-blade, all metal, fixed-pitch propeller (s/n13630K).

A briefcase, containing the aircraft maintenance records, was ejected from the airplane and undamaged by the postimpact fire. According to these records, the airplane underwent an annual inspection on August 22, 2002, at a tachometer time of 1,382:69. Total airframe hours was 8,983:69. At a total time of 5,845.0 hours, the engine was overhauled on December 19, 1984, then reinstalled in N5119R. At the time of the most recent annual inspection, the engine had accrued 787.79 hours since the overhaul.

Between the time of the annual inspection and the day of the accident, the airplane had made two flights, totaling 3.5 hours. The first flight was a test flight made by the airport manager right after the annual inspection, and the airplane's previous owner made the second flight. No anomalies

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were reported.

### METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION

The following ASOS (Automated Surface Observing System) weather observations were recorded Montrose, Colorado, Regional Airport (MTJ), and Walker Field (GJT), Grand Junction, Colorado, located 25 miles southeast and 39 miles west-northwest of Delta, respectively:

MTJ (0953): Wind, calm; visibility, (greater than) 10 statute miles; sky condition, clear; temperature, 15 degrees C. (59 degrees F.); dew point, 6 degrees C. (43 degrees F.); altimeter, 30.31.

GJT (0956): Wind, 130 degrees at 10 knots; visibility, (great than) 10 statute miles' sky condition, clear; temperature, 17 degrees C. (63 degrees F.); dew point, 8 degrees C. (46 degrees F.); altimeter, 30.25

### AERODROME INFORMATION

Blake Field (1V9), located 3 miles north of Delta, is situated on a mesa at an elevation of 5,193 feet msl (mean sea level). It has one asphalt runway: 03-21/5,600 feet x 50 feet. According to the airport manager, runway 03 has a 1.5 percent uphill grade.

### WRECKAGE AND IMPACT INFORMATION

The accident site was at a location of 38 degrees, 47.798' north latitude, and 108 degrees, 03.140' west longitude, and at an elevation of 4,765 feet. According to a hand-held GPS (Global Positioning System) receiver, the approach end of runway 03 is at 38 degrees, north latitude, and 108 degrees, 03.354' west longitude, and at an elevation of 4,887 feet. The departure end of the runway is at 38 degrees, 47.529' north latitude, and 108 degrees, 03.430' west longitude, and at an elevation of 4,888 feet.

Examination of the accident site revealed a crater and ground scar in the earth, the latter ending at the airplane's right wing tip. The crater sides sloped 45 degrees. The ground scar, when measured with the crater, indicated the right wing was about 60 degrees down. The nose and tail were aligned on magnetic headings of 111 and 150 degrees, respectively. Both wing fuel tanks were breached and empty. The fuel selector was positioned on the right tank. The flaps on the fixed gear airplane were retracted. Flight control continuity was established from the various control surfaces to the cockpit area. One propeller blade was about straight and relatively undamaged; the other blade was bent aft slightly. The Larago LELT-1005-AF emergency locator transmitter (s/n 7864) was found armed and activated. It was turned off and the antenna cable disconnected. The ELT battery expiration date was September 2004.

Although the cockpit was gutted, two instruments were recovered, to wit: vertical speed indicator, 1,600 feet per minute, down; altimeter, 4,760 feet msl, set to 30.34 in. Hg.

### MEDICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL INFORMATION

An autopsy was performed on the pilot at the Montrose Community Hospital, Montrose, Colorado. In addition, FAA's Civil Aeromedical Institute (CAMI) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, performed a toxicological screen on various specimens. According to CAMI's report (#200200274001), diazepam, a tranquilizer, was detected in the blood (0.079 ug/ml, ug/g), and nordiazepam, its metabolite was detected in the blood (0.079 ug/ml, ug/g), lung, and kidney (0.106 ug/ml, ug/g). According to a CAMI toxicologist, diazepam (the generic name is Valium) is a tranquilizer and may cause drowziness. It is contraindicated for flying.

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TESTS AND RESEARCH

On September 17, 2002, the engine was disassembled and examined at the facilities of Beegles Aircraft Service, Inc. Greeley, Colorado. After accessory removal, power train continuity was established and good thumb compression was found on all four cylinders. The Facet HA-6 carburetor (s/n CH-8-980) was destroyed. The throttle valve was at the mid-travel position, but the mixture control was destroyed. The engine driven fuel pump was destroyed. Both Bendix S4LN series magnetos were destroyed. All spark plugs exhibited grayish combustion color. The top number 1 spark plug was slightly darker. All electrodes appeared new with proper gaps, and the ignition wiring was securely attached. The oil screen contained no metal or other contaminants. The vacuum pump was disassembled; no anomalies were noted. The Electrosystems MZ 4222R starter gear was found forward and meshed with the starter ring gear teeth.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In addition to the Federal Aviation Administration, parties to the investigation included Raytheon (Beech) Aircraft Corporation and Textron-Lycoming Engines.

The wreckage was released to the owner's insurance company's adjuster on September 16, 2002.

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AVIATION	Occur	rence Typ	e: Accident	I								
Landing Facility/Approach Info	rmation											
Airport Name			Airport ID:	Airport Eleva	ition	on Runway Used			Runway Length		Runw	ay Width
Blake Field		- 1	1V9	5181 Ft.	. MSL	. 03		5600			75	
Runway Surface Type: Asphalt												
Runway Surface Condition: Dry												
Type Instrument Approach: Unknown												
VFR Approach/Landing: Unknown												
Aircraft Information												
Aircraft Manufacturer  Beech			Mode B19	el/Series						Serial Number MB-654		
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Normal												
Landing Gear Type: Tricycle												
Homebuilt Aircraft? No N	lumber of Seats: 4	4	Certified Max Gross Wt. 2					O LBS	er of Enç	er of Engines: 1		
Engine Type: Reciprocating			Engine Manufacturer: Model/Series: Lycoming O-360-A4J						Rated Power: 180 HP			
- Aircraft Inspection Information												
Type of Last Inspection			Date of Last Inspection Time			Time Sir	nce Last Insp	Airfram	ie Tot	tal Time		
Annual		$\perp \perp$	08/2002					4 Hours				984 Hours
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (EL	T) Information											
ELT Installed? Yes	ELT Operate	ed? Yes	3	ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site? No							_	
Owner/Operator Information												
Registered Aircraft Owner			Street Address P.O. Box 3008									
Sid Hall Enterprises, Inc.			City	City						State		Zip Code
			Albany GA 31706 Street Address								31700	
Operator of Aircraft			Same as Reg'd Aircraft Owner									
Same as Reg'd Aircraft Owner	City	City						State	•	Zip Code		
Operator Does Business As: Southe	rn Aircraft Sales	3				Or	perator Desig	nator Co	ode:			
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held: No	ne											
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s):												
Operating Certificate:				Operator C	Certific	cate:						
Regulation Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: Genera	al Aviati	on									
Type of Flight Operation Conducted:	Ferry											
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AVIATI	Occurrence Type: Accident												
First Pilot Information													
Name					City					State	Da	te of Birth	Age
On File					On File	le On File					0	n File	46
Sex: M Seat Occupied	: Left	Prir	ncipal Profes	sion: Busine	ess				Certif	icate N	umber:	On File	
Certificate(s): Private													
Airplane Rating(s): Single-engine Land													
Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: None													
Instrument Rating(s): Airplane													
Instructor Rating(s): None													
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft?  Current Biennial Flight Review? 03/2002													
Medical Cert.: Class 3	Medica	al Cert. Status	s: Valid Med	dicalw/ wa	ivers/lim	1.		Dat	e of Last	Medica	al Exar	m: 05/2002	
- Flight Time Matrix	Flight Time Matrix  All A/C  This Make and Model						In Actual	Instrument ual Simulat		Rotorcraft		Glider	Lighter Than Air
Total Time	565	100	544	16		56	1	0	37				
Pilot In Command(PIC)	444		444			$\Box$							
Instructor						$\dashv$				_			
Last 90 Days						$\dashv$				+			
Last 30 Days						$\dashv$				+			
Last 24 Hours	01	lden Henre	1110		 		Jagy Darf		) \/		C	nd Dilat2 No	
Seatbelt Used? Yes	Shou	lder Harness	Used?		110	XICO	logy Perf	ormea	res		Seco	nd Pilot? No	'
Flight Plan/Itinerary													
Type of Flight Plan Filed: No	one												
Departure Point					S	State	A	Airport Identifier			Departure Time		Time Zone
Same as Accident/Incide	ent Location							1V9		0953			MDT
Destination					s	State Airport Identifier							
Albany					G	GA ABY							
Type of Clearance: None					·					·			
Type of Airspace: Class	G												
Weather Information													
Source of Briefing: Unkno	wn												
Method of Briefing: Unkno	wn												
			FACTUAL	REPORT -	- AVIAT	'ION	1						Page 3

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		Occurrenc	Accidei	π									
Weather Information													
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WC	OF Elevati	on	WOF Distance From Accident Site					Direction Fron	n Accident Site	9
MTJ	0953	MDT		5759 Ft.	. MSL				25 NM		140 Deg. Mag.		
Sky/Lowes	st Cloud Condition: Clear		Ft. AGL					Condition of Light: Day					
Lowest Ce	eiling: None		Ft.	AGL	Visib	ility:	10	SM	Altimeter:		30.31	"Hg	
Temperatu	ure: 15 °C I		6 °C Wind Direction: Density Altitude:							6602	Ft.		
Wind Spee	ed: Calm	Gusts:		Weather Condtions at Accident Site: Visual Conditions									
Visibility (F	RVR): Ft.	Visibility	(RVV)		SM	Intensit	y of Precip	oitation:					
Restriction	Restrictions to Visibility: None												
Type of Precipitation: None													
Accident	Information												
Aircraft Da	mage: Destroyed		A	Aircraft Fire	e: Grou	ound Aircraft Explos					n None		
Classificati	ion: U.S. Registered/U	.S. Soil											
- Injury Su	mmary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Mino	or	None	TOTAL						
First Pi	ilot	1						1					
Second	d Pilot							7					
Studen	nt Pilot							7					
Flight I	Instructor							7					
Check	Pilot							7					
Flight E	Engineer							7					
Cabin /	Attendants							7					
Other (	Crew							$\neg$					
Passer	ngers							7					
- TOTAL A	ABOARD -	1						1					
Other 0	Ground							7					
- GRANE	O TOTAL -	1					<u> </u>	1					

National Transportation Safety Board

FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION

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Occurrence Type: Accident

Administrative Information

Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)

Arnold W. Scott

Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation:

Floyd J Landon Aviation Safety Inspector - Airworthiness FAA Flight Standards District Office 116 North 2400 West Salt Lake City, UT 84116